



The African Union would like to thank the Forum for initiating and leading the discussion on current problems of development aid effectiveness. The African Union would like to express our full support towards solving problematic of the development aid. After our analysis of the second draft proposed by the Forum for 21st Century, we would like to comment proposals and include our suggestions for the discussion as well.

Position of the African Union on the proposal of the Forum for 21st Century



Position of The Africa Union for the purpose of the conference held by Forum for 21st Century on 29 November 2011 reflected in the second draft of the negotiation paper, regarding the development aid issues.

Since its inception in 2003, the African Union has made remarkable strides towards the development of the Continent, thus raising its profile. To date, African Union Member States have maintained strong and unwavering unity and solidarity in addressing the common challenges experienced by the Continent since the days of the Organization of African Unity. The Union seeks primarily to improve the quality of life of the Continent's citizens through **integration, cooperation and development**. It strives to promote unity, solidarity, cohesion and cooperation among the peoples and States of Africa, while developing new and stronger strategic partnerships worldwide for Africa's sustainable development. We believe that the conference organized by The Forum of 21st Century will help us to continue in our efforts.

The African Union agree with the description of the current situation concerning the unmoral importance of own benefits for donors 'countries.



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-  The African Union would like to emphasize that two thirds of the least developed countries are the members of African Union that is why The African Union position is the position of the majority of the least develop countries.
-  The African Union strongly recall the responsibility of all states to fulfill Millennium Development Goals. Developed countries have accorded to increase their contribution for development assistance to 0.7% of their gross national income. They cannot hide this commitment behind some tool of effectiveness. We strongly emphasize that this commitment must be followed.
-  The Forum for 21st Century has identified effectiveness as the crucial problem of current development assistance. The African Union cannot agree with this. Firstly, we identify lack of financial resources (as the consequence of the failure of Millennium Development Goals) and secondly the crucial problem is not efficiency but inefficiency of delivered development assistance which is still not sufficient.
-  The African Union considers the invitation of The Forum for 21st Century to support the initiative of establishing the Platform for Development Assistance as inappropriate as it is addressed just to donor countries.
-  The Forum has stated: “The participation of all donors could create also control mechanism of providing development assistance by recording the particular outputs and results of donors’ activities in certain area.” The absence of beneficiary countries is not good for future development.
-  The African union would like to make a call for moral responsibility of donors countries to provide more support and help to developing countries in order to increase their self-development capacity. The plan of The Forum for 21st century does not propose partnerships between donors and recipients of development assistance. This lack of equivalence is harmful for every member of the global community.
-  However, The African Union supports an idea of creation of the Platform for Development Assistance (PDA) which would be based on regional levels. The African Union would like to take an active role in this global initiative by taking leading positions of PDA organizational structure in all members states of The African Union. We do consider this as a necessary condition for ensuring the active role of developing countries in its capability of self-development. It is also aligned



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with the vision of the African Union: “An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, **driven by its own citizens** and representing a dynamic force in global arena.”

- However, governance reforms in Africa are slow and easily reversible. Progress in this domain needs to be consolidated and strengthened by up-scaling resource mobilization to move the governance agenda forward. Furthermore, Africa has long been marginalized in global political institutions such as the G8, the United Nations Security Council and in international financial forums that impact significantly on the future of the Continent. Therefore, are demanding the opportunity to ensure that Africa is adequately represented in this international initiative that help to shape our future.